

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to claim 1, wherein one of said channel metrics is unrecoverable channel distortion.~~ A method of dynamic frequency allocation for use in a wireless communications network geographically arranged into regions, each region containing at least one fixed base station and one or more subscriber terminals, communications between the fixed base station and the one or more subscriber terminals in each region taking place over an allocated one of a plurality of communications channels available for use by the network, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) monitoring the radio conditions on at least the allocated channel in each region;

(b) generating channel metrics including a metric for unrecoverable channel distortion corresponding to the monitored radio conditions on the channel; and

(c) reallocating a different channel to at least those regions where the generated channel metrics including the metric for unrecoverable channel distortion indicate that the allocated channel in those regions is suffering interference;

wherein steps (a), (b) and (c) are continuously repeated in order whereby channels may be dynamically reallocated to regions during continuous network operation.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 4, and further comprising the step of transmitting the generated channel metrics to a network control server year over a signalling channel.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7 wherein said reallocation step (c) is performed centrally by the network control server, channel reallocation information being transmitted from the network control server to at least the fixed base station in each region over the signalling channel.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein said signalling channel is a permanent ATM VPI/VCI pair.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[11]] 4, wherein ~~one of the channel metrics generated are~~ the monitoring step (a) further includes the step of monitoring a plurality of the available channels in addition to the allocated channel in each region and the generating step (b) includes the step of generating one or more respective channel metrics, where said channel metrics include the correlation levels obtained by correlating a known training sequence corresponding to the allocated channel with each, respective training sequence corresponding to each of the plurality of monitored channels corresponding to the respective radio conditions on each of the plurality of monitored channels.

13-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 15, wherein one of said channel metrics is unrecoverable channel distortion.~~ A system arranged to perform dynamic channel allocation for use in a wireless communications network geographically arranged into regions, each region containing at least one fixed base station and one or more subscriber terminals, communications between the fixed base stations and the one or more subscriber terminals in each region taking place over an allocated one of a plurality of wireless communications channels available for use by the network, the system comprising:-

(a) monitoring means for monitoring the radio conditions on at least the allocated channel in each region;

(b) metric generation means for generating one or more channel metrics including an unrecoverable channel distortion metric corresponding to the monitored radio conditions on the channel; and

(c) channel reallocation means for reallocating a different channel to at least those regions when the generated channel metrics including the unrecoverable channel distortion metric indicate that the allocated channel in those regions is suffering interference;

wherein said monitoring means, said metric generation means and said channel reallocation means each repeat their operations in order whereby channels may be dynamically reallocated to regions during continuous network operation.

19-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A system according to any of claim [[15]] 18 and further comprising transmission means for transmitting the generated channel metrics to a network control server over a signalling channel.

22. (Original) A system according to claim 21 wherein said reallocation means (c) are located at the network control server, channel reallocation information generated by the channel reallocation means being transmitted from the network control server to at least the fixed base station in each region over the signalling channel.

23. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 21, wherein said signalling channel is a permanent ATM VPI/VCI pair.

24-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A system according to any of claim [[15]] 18, wherein the monitoring means (a) are further arranged to monitor a plurality of the available channels in addition to the allocated channel in each region and the metric generation means are further arranged to generate one or more respective channel metrics including the correlation levels obtained by correlating a known training sequence corresponding to the allocated channel with each respective training sequence corresponding to the respective radio conditions on each of the plurality of monitored channels.

27-28. (Canceled)